



MEDIA RELEASE
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Contact: Thomas P. Colantuono
United States Attorney
Mark E. Howard
Assistant U.S. Attorney
(603) 225-1552

SOMERSWORTH MEN INDICTED ON CRACK COCAINE CHARGES

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE--United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Somersworth Police Chief Dean Crombie, and United States Drug Enforcement Administration Resident Agent in Charge Leo Ducey, announced the indictment of Jason Coles, DOB 6/15/76 and Ahmad Shakur, DOB 7/14/77 on charges involving the distribution of "crack" cocaine in the Somersworth and Seacoast area. Shakur and Coles were arrested on federal warrants on Sunday and Monday, respectively, in Somersworth and have been held without bail pending a hearing on Thursday May 1, in the United States District Court.

Both defendants are charged with conspiracy to distribute "crack" cocaine, and with the actual distribution of "crack" cocaine on various dates throughout the month of April. In addition, at the time of their arrests, both defendants were allegedly in possession of additional quantities of "crack" which the grand jury has charged they intended to distribute.

Defendant Shakur is also charged with possessing a .45 caliber Webley revolver in furtherance of and in relation to the drug-trafficking offenses. The charge stems from the discovery by police of the loaded .45 caliber under the driver's seat of Shakur's vehicle at the time of his arrest.

United States Attorney Colantuono thanked the Somersworth Police and the DEA for their extraordinary efforts in the case. He also extended his appreciation to the Portsmouth Police for their assistance in the investigation. This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U. S. Attorney Mark Howard.

United States Attorney Colantuono reminds the public that an indictment merely alleges that a crime has been committed and that all defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.